

ARBORIST I

NATURE OF WORK

This is skilled work involving all phases of the care and maintenance of City trees.

Work involves responsibility for the pruning, repairing, spraying and removal of City trees; the preparation and planting of new trees; and the operation and maintenance of specialized tree care equipment. Much of the work is hazardous, requires considerable strength and agility, and is performed outdoors in all types of weather. Assignments are received from working supervisors and include general details on each job to be performed, although the employee is expected to apply some independent judgment. Work is performed in crews under the leadership of an Arborist II with overall supervision received from an administrative superior.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Prunes, sprays, plants and removes trees; repairs trees damaged by vehicles and storms; and performs other related tasks in conjunction with the care and maintenance of City trees.

Climbs trees using ladders, rope and saddle, or other methods; prunes or cuts branches using power saws, handsaws or other specialized tree care equipment; prunes small trees from the ground using pole saws and power pole pruners; performs hazardous tree removal with a mobile aerial device or rope and saddle.

Performs manual tasks such as clearing brush, planting trees, removing stumps, grindings, filling stump holes, and general cleaning and maintenance when not engaged in tree maintenance.

Performs routine preventive maintenance on equipment operated such as fueling/cleaning, checking oil/fluid levels, lubrication, inspecting tires, etc.

Operates and assists in the maintenance of mobile aerial devices and other equipment.

Operates brush chippers, hydraulic log loader and large log hauling trucks.

May serve as crew leader when supervisor is not present; may assist in the training and supervision of lower level employees involved in tree maintenance work.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS

Knowledge of tree care and the methods, techniques and specialized equipment used in pruning, spraying, planting and removal of trees.

Knowledge of the precautions and equipment necessary to perform work safely.

Knowledge of tree and shrub species for identification purposes.

Ability to climb trees and work with aerial equipment at varying heights and angles.

Ability to operate and maintain specialized tree care equipment, arborist tools and equipment such as chain and hand saws, pole pruners, chipper, augers, ropes, ladders, log loader truck, dump truck, mobile aerial devices and tree climbing equipment.

Ability to move ladders and lift logs and branches.

Ability to perform strenuous physical activity, including lifting up to 100 pounds, and to work in adverse weather conditions.

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers and the general public.

Skill in pruning, removing, repairing and planting trees.

DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Graduation from senior high school or equivalent and responsible experience in tree care activities and the operation of specialized tree care equipment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from a senior high school or equivalent and any combination of training and /or experience which can be demonstrated to result in the possession of the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills necessary to perform the duties of this position.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a valid State of Nebraska driver's license when operating a vehicle is necessary for the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

Possession and maintenance of a valid Nebraska Commercial Driver's License (CDL) is a requirement of this position prior to completion of probation.

Successful completion of the City of Lincoln's First Class Arborist Examination is a requirement of this position prior to completion of probation.

Possession and maintenance of a valid Nebraska Certified Pesticide Applicator license is a requirement of this position prior to completion of probation.

Approved by: _____
Department Head

Personnel Director